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# THE GEOGRAPHICAL REVIEW

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## OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Mr. Stefánsson's Arctic explorations were made mainly on three expeditions: the first in 1906-07, to the Mackenzie delta; the second in 1908-12, on which the "blond" Eskimos, possibly descendants of the early Norse settlers of Greenland, were discovered in Dolphin and Union Straits; the third in 1913-18, as a result of which much light was shed on the constitution of the western margin of the North American Arctic Archipelago, both by the proof, on a sledge journey over the sea ice between Alaska and Banks Island, of the non-existence of land in this area, and the discovery of three islands between Prince Patrick and Axel Heiberg Islands.

Dr. Rudmose Brown occupies the chair of geography at Sheffield University, England. In 1902-04 he was a member of the scientific staff of the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition, to the report of whose scientific results he contributed various papers ("The Problems of Antarctic Plant Life" and on the botany of the South Orkneys, of Gough Island, and of Ascension, Vol. 3, Parts I-IV, Edinburgh, 1912; "The Seals of the Weddell Sea: Notes on Their Habits and Distribution", Vol. 4, Part XIII, 1915), and concerning which he wrote (with Mossman and Pirie) a general account entitled "The Voyage of the *Scotia*" (Edinburgh, 1906). A product of this voyage is also an article on Gough Island (*Scott. Geogr. Mag.*, Vol. 21, 1905). In 1906 Dr. Brown was appointed Special Commissioner to study the pearl oyster fisheries of the Mergui Archipelago, off the western coast of the Malay Peninsula (see his "The Mergui Archipelago: Its People and Products," *ibid.*, Vol. 23, 1907). In 1909 and 1912 Dr. Brown visited Spitsbergen. The present article is based on his extensive personal knowledge of the group. On it he has also written: "British Work in Spitsbergen: Some Historical Notes" (*ibid.*, Vol. 27, 1911); "The Commercial Development of Spitsbergen" (*ibid.*, Vol. 28, 1912), and "Spitsbergen in 1914" (*Geogr. Journ.*, Vol. 46, 1915). He is also the author of "The Province of the Geographer" (*Scott. Geogr. Mag.*, Vol. 30, 1911).

Professor Gilbert, of Cornell University, has devoted himself for some time to studies related to the topic of the present paper. He has just published "A Geographical Dictionary of Milton" (New Haven, 1919), soon to be followed by a volume on Milton as a geographer.

Mr. Ward is professor of climatology at Harvard University and one of the foremost authorities on climate in this country. He has contributed numerous articles on this subject to the *Review* and its predecessor, the *Bulletin*, the most recent of these being "Rainy Days and Rain Probability in the United States" (*Geogr. Rev.*, January, 1919) and "Rainfall Types of the United States" (*ibid.*, Vol. 4, 1917). During the war Mr. Ward especially devoted his attention to the military aspects of meteorology. His presidential address to the Association of American Geographers (1917), recently published in the *Annals* of the Association, is entitled "Meteorology and War-Flying—Some Practical Suggestions."